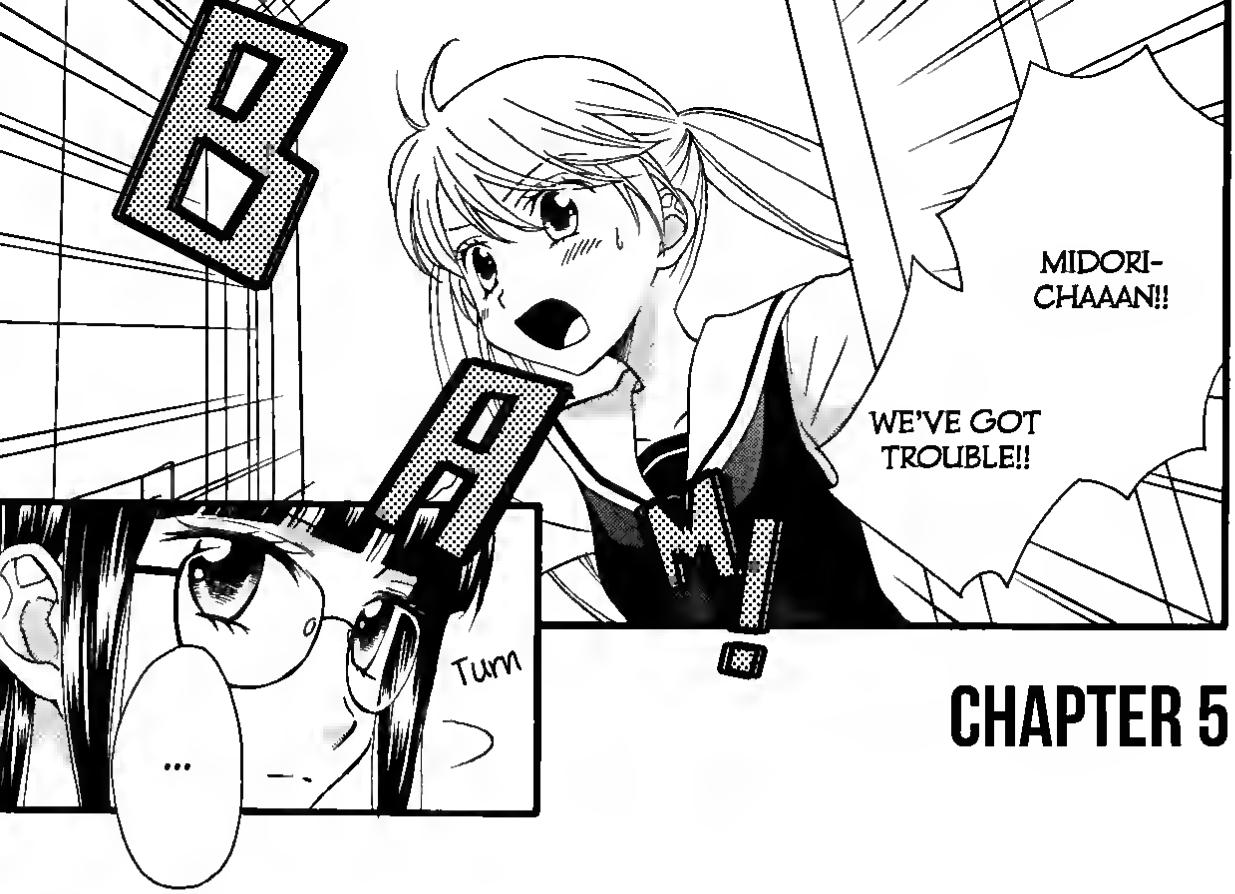

MIDORI-CHAAAN!!
WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!!
Turn
...

CHAPTER 5

And what is it today?
Huh? You aren't going to scold me for just bursting in here without permission?
I've given up on that...

So, Midori-chan, like I was saying...
Before you go on, could you stop doing that?
Eh?
Addressing me like that!
Besides, what happened to your obsession with coming up with a nickname for me?
Well... I'm not sure this is okay...
I don't know if we're close enough for this...
fidget
fidget
What are you talking about?
?
It's kind of embarrassing, but what I thought of was...
?
MIDORI?
Ehe♡
ENRAGED...
Swish
OOOOOOH!!
MIDORI-CHAN, STOP!!
I'M SERIOUS!! YOU COULD REALLY HURT ME WITH THAT THING!!

Whew...
Oh, you've drawn more manga?
Moving on, just what's the problem you're here about this time?
Another argument you want us to referee? Or maybe...
You're really good at drawing, Midori-chan. Are you trying to become a mangaka?
Even if it's just about gay guys
Rustle
Haa
DON'T JUST START READ- ING WITHOUT PERMISSION!
DON'T...
WHA?!
Hm?
Snatch
It's not like... I want to become a mangaka or something...
I'm just doing it... to pass the time...
Blush
Right!
Since you're in the School Police, of course you're aiming to be a police officer ♫

So, are you also aiming to become a police officer?
Eh? Of course!
You are too, right?
Or maybe you want to be a government official?
I've heard being in the School Police can help with getting that kind of career too.
I'll probably do...
Whatever my father tells me to...

Dream?
I see. I really want to be a police officer...
It's my greatest dream.
YEAH!
TO BE A HERO OF JUSTICE!!

I've always just done what my father told me to...
Giving up on all my dreams...
Justice...
A...
A hero of...
I knew it... this girl is a total space case...
But...
Rather than never putting more than a half-effort into anything like me...
Maybe having something you've always been aiming for is...
2-A
They say it appears...
On the subway...
During the morning rush hour...

So basically...
It's a molester!
We can't let this go! We have to catch him!
That's right...
But... from the way you talked about it "appearing"...
I thought you were talking about a ghost...
That's also right...
TCH
Huh?
It's both.
Is what I'm saying
BOTH?!
At the same time?!
Around half the students here commute to school on the subway's Y line.
It seems the incidents have been occurring there during the morning rush hour...
The train was packed. It was hot and humid onboard.
Then I suddenly felt a cold chill running down my legs.
Shiver
And, at the same time...

Even though...
I could cleorly feel the touch of o cold hond...
We investigated the seven mysteries of this school a while back, right?
It seems this kind of thing was happening to some girls at the same time...
Some-thing kept rubbing ogoinst me.
I wos so shocked I couldn't soy o word.
And when I looked into the window...
The molester's reflection thot should hove been there wos no-where to be found.
But since it was taking place outside the school, I couldn't use it as an article subject.
As I recall, you never used the school's seven mys-teries as an article topic anyways.
Well, you two gave me some way more interest-ing material to work with, after all ♫
...
Now...
Is what I thought but...

So that's why Minaguchi-san was away today?
Yes. She's too scared to ride on the subway.
There's a Japan Rail station nearby. Can't she use that?
That's what I told her too, but...
I don't care if it's a ghost or whatever...
It seems now Minmin has had a run-in...
With the molester ghost...
Eh?!
THAT MOLESTER IS A CRIMINAL!
NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES, I'M GOING TO CATCH HIM!!
BAM!
...
Eh?
Of course, I want to catch him too, but how?
Um
Like... with an amulet, and some salt, and... um...
A priest?

They sure are close...
Ah... be right back, Tokiwa-chan.
Eh? What is it, Midori-chan?
Come with me for a minute.
Haa...
A crime is still a crime!
It's true that I don't have ESP, and I don't know how to perform exorcisms, but...
Eh?! Because it's a ghost?!
That's not what I mean.
Weren't you listening? This is happening on the subway.
Like Tokiwa said, it's taking place outside the school.
We're the police of this school.
Something like this is outside our jurisdiction.
This isn't something we can involve ourselves with.
You'll have to let it go.

But aren't the victims students from this school?!
Even Minmin...
We're here to deal with incidents that take place AT this school.
The school police are only permitted to take action against crimes happening on-campus.
Outside falls under the jurisdiction of the police station.
So we have to ask the police station to do it...?
Yes, that's right...
...
The criminal is a molester ghost.
They won't take it seriously.
...

Yeah!
Ehehe. Do I look more grown-up?
Are you... in disguise?
Ah... Good morning, Aoba-chan...
Over here, Tokiwa-chan!
Chatter
Chatter
The train is now leaving the station.
Please finish boarding.
I see... she must be pretty trauma-tized.
She still hasn't replied...
I sent a text to Minmin, but...
So how are you planning to catch him?
That's not much of a plan...
Leave it to me!
A BANG at about this height should be good.
Right! First, I'll give him a good punch!
Hi-ya!

There are so many other high school girls.
There are a lot of all-girls schools along this line.
There are three other uniform styles besides ours here.
Appearances usually happen on the third, fourth, or fifth cars of the train.
A lot of commuters get off at Ikebukuro.
It gets a bit easier to move than during the peak of rush hour.
I'm going to check out car five.
Well
whisper
whisper
whisper
rattle
rattle
rattle
rattle
Okay.
Text me if you find something.
SALE
GLANCE
GLANCE
Well...
I don't know if it's the same for ghosts, but...
A normal molester would look for specific girls to target.
Girls who are with friends
or girls with a phone in their hands wouldn't be good targets.

A diligent-looking girl with glasses...
Hm?
A girl who looks kind of down... like that girl.
A meek girl... a girl who wouldn't put up a fight...
Midori-chan?
!!
Why are YOU here?
No... that's my line...

...
I'm collecting material for my manga... maybe.
whisper
whisper
shine
Then, why?
I'm not here as a member of the School Police.
whisper
whisper
whisper
I thought you said we shouldn't get involved in incidents outside the school.
I see... for your manga?
I knew it...
Midori-chan really is part of the School Police.
When I tried to research the molester ghost...
I found some worrying things on the internet...
However...
You feel o hand on your bottom but you turn oround ond turn oround, but no one is there.
You con detect the faint scent of on old man...
An old man?! So it's the ghost of a dirty old man?!
Well...

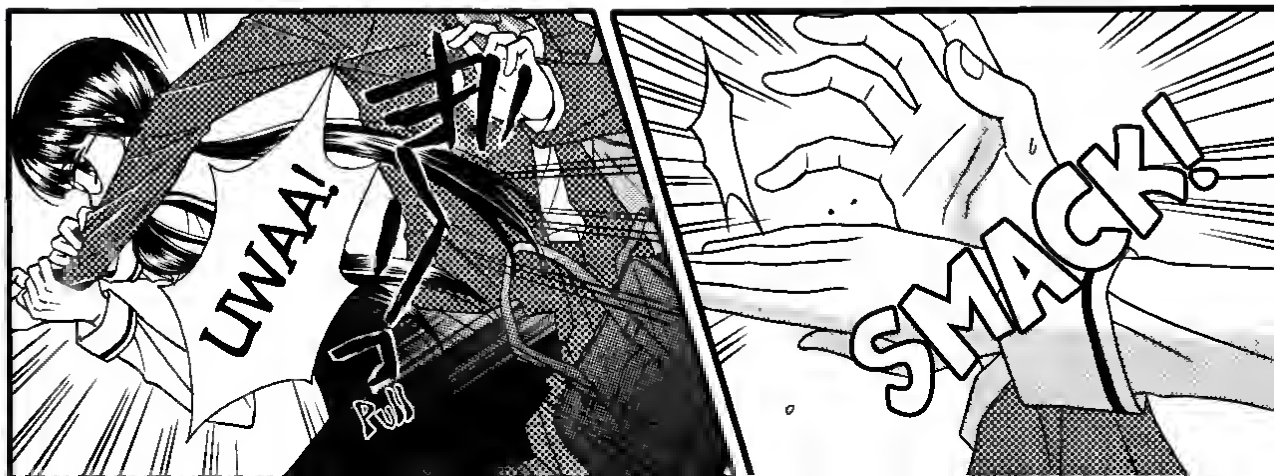
That's what...
I'm here to find out.
rattle
rattle
rattle
rattle
rattle
The train is hot and crowded...
But... I feel a chill at my feet...
SHIVER...!
But...
A cold hand...
Against my leg...

I turn around, and there's nobody there.
SHOCK
In the window...
I don't see a reflection of someone behind me...
Sneak...
Rustle
!
!!
GRAB
HOLD IT!
A girl from another high school...
COOL
ICE

Shock
Wha... what?! Let me go!
What did I do?!
!
UWAA!
Midori-chan! What happen—
What is it?! Do you think this is a crime or something?!
Isn't this within my rights?!
Being a cross-dresser...
Is not a crime.
However, molestation IS a crime...
According to the ordinance relating to the prevention of violent acts causing notable inconvenience to the public...
Punishable by up to six months imprisonment and a fine of up to 500,000 yen.
Have... have you got any proof that I did it?!
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
Eh?
I do.
Shock!

Just a few minutes ago I came over to this car and Sakuraba-san's exchanged glances with me!
Aren't I amazing?!
Eeh?! When did you get this?!
Geh?!
Hey, Tokiwa-san.
Eh? Ah! Yes!
I've got it!

You...
!
NICE SPEECH, LITTLE LADY!!
PULL
PULL


UWAA!
PULL
SMACK!

GAAAH!
SMACK!
Ho!
Hurry, Aoba!
Oh?
Ooh!
We aren't "little ladies"!
SNAP
WE'RE THE POL—
POLICE
OW! OW! OW! OW!
Pull
Pull
Pull
slip

Trembling
Ah...
That's not what I meant! Restrain him until we get to a station!
You moron!! Don't pull that out in a public place!
Shock
BAM!

The ghost... is revealed to just be a person!
This will make a great story!!
You think you'll be able to use it even though it happened outside of school?
Ah...
shock
How did you know the perpetrator was the cross-dresser?
I thought it was strange for there to be nobody behind me.
And I have an exclusive photo!!

He would stand out in a train full of schoolgirls otherwise.
So I knew... The offender couldn't be obviously male...
And then... There was the matter of the odour and the cold hands...
Ah. You mean the old man scent?
Wearing the same wig and tights on a hot, crowded train every day...
Of course they would start to smell.
And in order to keep from sweating as much as possible, he used cold packs...
It's just that you're school police?
No... ehehe...
You were amazing, Sakuraba-san!
Aoba-chan too!
Not really... it's just that...

STARTLE
!!
Minaguchi-san...
Minmin, you came?
rush
I heard that both of you were going to come...
I was scared, but... I decided to come too...
So, did you see it?
Earlier, Aoba-chan and Saku-raba-san caught the molester!
Yes...
I saw it...
POLICE

Your notebook... I saw it once before too...
So it was the real deal after all?
Eh?
...
The first time I saw it, I thought it was just a toy...
But what you did earlier...
Is that really something normal high school girls would be capable of?
You're with the police...
THE...
No way!
THE SCHOOL POLICE?! EEH?!
Sorry
Yeah... well... I was planning to give you a proper explanation sometime, but...
Didn't I tell you to make sure they'd keep their mouths shut?!

I really thought of you as a friend, Aoba-chan, but...
I'm sorry...
I...
More... more important-tantly...
Everything will be fine now, Minmin. The molester ghost is...
dodge
I...
I... HATE THE POLICE!!
CHAPTER 5 [END]

Sorry Miss "I watch every Dragnet rerun," maybe YOU can come up with something next time.
AND LIKE ANYONE IS GETTING AN OBSCURE PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE REFERENCE!
For the last time...
IT WASN'T A REAL MOLESTER GHOST!
TCH!

and you will never know it... for they will be from the world beyond.
Perhaps, on your way home, someone will molest you in the subway,
You have seen this incident, based on sworn testimony. Can you prove that it didn't happen?

TRANSLATOR
RIS

RAW/EDITOR
PHYIS

QUALITY CHECK
PROCYON

School Police
Chapter 5
by Morinaga Milk

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